



**U.S. Department of Justice**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DISTRICT HEIGHTS MAN CONVICTED OF  
ARMED BANK ROBBERY FACES LIFE IN PRISON**

**GREENBELT, Maryland** - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced today that on Monday, July 14, 2003 a federal jury found Gregg Lamont Smith, age 33, of District Heights, Maryland guilty of armed bank robbery, conspiracy to commit armed bank robbery and using a firearm during a crime of violence, in connection with the February 12, 2002 robbery of a Bank of America branch at 3413 Kenilworth Avenue, Hyattsville, Maryland where \$20,112 was stolen.

During the trial the government presented evidence showing that Gregg Smith, a bus driver for the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority, provided firearms, cased a bank and acted as the getaway driver for his friends from the Alpine Street neighborhood of District Heights, co-defendants Willie Lawson and David Obrian Smith. Willie Lawson, age 27, was convicted in a trial in April and sentenced to 57 years in prison on July 7, 2003. Lawson's brother, David Obrian Smith, age 22, pled guilty on March 28, 2003 and is awaiting sentencing on the same charges facing Gregg Smith.

Under the firearm conviction, Smith faces a maximum penalty of life in prison, and a

minimum sentence of 7 years in prison, along with a fine of up to \$250,000. The firearms sentence runs consecutively to the sentence imposed for the underlying armed bank robbery offense for which Smith faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. Smith also faces a maximum sentence of 5 years in prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 for the conspiracy conviction. Each of these prison terms may be followed by 3 years of supervised release.

United States District Judge Alexander Williams Jr. ordered Smith, who had been at home and work on electronic monitoring, detained following the verdict. Sentencing is scheduled for September 26, 2003.

The case is a result of a five month investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's field offices in Calverton, Maryland and Washington, DC. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys James C. Howard and Mythili Raman.